

National Journal

January 24, 1824...No. 11

[EXTRA.]

THE CONGRESS.

FIRST SESSION, EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS.

Proceedings.

SENATE.

Monday, January 12th, 1824.—Twenty-eighth day.

The following petitions and memorials were presented and referred:—

The Chamber of Commerce of the city of Baltimore, praying the adoption of an uniform system of Bankruptcy;—By Mr. SMITH. [Judiciary.]

Certain persons concerned in the manufacture of iron, praying an increase of the duties on imported iron;—By Mr. FINDLAY. [Commerce and Manufactures.]

Certain citizens of the state of Virginia, praying an increase of the duties on imported iron;—By Mr. BARBOUR. [same committee.]

Of sundry persons claiming indemnification for property captured by the French, previous to the year 1800; their claim having been abandoned by this government in the Convention with France;—By Mr. BARBOUR. [Foreign Relations.]

Messrs. SMITH, LLOYD, of Mass. LANMAN, VANBUREN, KNIGHT, HOLMES, of Maine, EDWARDS, of Conn. presented petitions of a similar nature; which were referred to the same committee.

Sundry persons praying an increase of the duties on imported iron;—By Mr. DICKERSON. [Commerce and Manufactures.]

Thomas F. Riddick, respecting his title to a certain tract of land;—By Mr. BARTON. [Public Lands.]

Banister Stone, praying relief from a contract to furnish certain arms to the Government, upon which he is surety;—By Mr. HAYNE. [Military Affairs.]

A communication from the Postmaster General, relating to the state of the national road, commencing at Madisonville, in Louisiana, and terminating at Florence, in Alabama, was received, read, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. SMITH, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill from the other House, for the relief of certain Distillers in the county of Berks, in the state of Pennsylvania, without amendment.

Mr. LANMAN, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, reported a bill to authorize the Postmaster General to discontinue any post route, the proceeds of which do not exceed — per centum of the expenses thereof; read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. JACKSON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill explanatory of an act, entitled an act for the relief of the officers, volunteers, and other persons engaged in the late campaign against the Seminole Indians; accompanied by a detailed report on the subject; which report was ordered to be printed, and the bill twice read.

Mr. SMITH, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill making a partial appropriation for the ensuing year; read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. BARTON, from the Committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Taylor Berry, reported a bill for the relief of the legal representatives of Firman Laniere, under whom Berry claims; read and passed to a second reading.

Mr. KING, of Alabama, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill granting to the state of Alabama the right of pre-emption to certain quarter sections of land; read and passed to a second reading.

The bill which originated in the Senate, for the relief of Josiah Hook, jr. and for the relief of the legal representatives of Joseph Boyd, were severally read the third time, and PASSED.

The bills from the other House, for the relief of Jacob Babbitt, for the relief of Brintnell Robbins, and for the relief of William Kendall, were severally read the third time, and PASSED.

On motion of Mr. RUGGLES, the Senate proceeded to consider the report of the Committee on Claims, unfavourable to the petition of Charles B. Davis. [This petitioner claims remuneration for the loss of furniture destroyed by the enemy at Washington.] A motion, by Mr. EATON, to reverse the report, was lost; and the report was agreed to.

The report of the Judiciary Committee, unfavourable to the petition of John Hall, was taken up and agreed to. [The petitioner was a Paymaster in the service of the United States; he had be-

come a defaulter to a considerable amount, and is now imprisoned in the state of Missouri.]

The bills and resolutions, which originated in the Senate, to abolish imprisonment for debt; for the relief of Joseph Wood, of Ohio; to amend the Constitution in regard to the election of President and Vice President; and to authorize the Secretary of the Senate to employ an additional temporary Clerk; were severally read the second time.

The Senate resumed, as in committee of the whole, the consideration of the bill from the House of Representatives, further extending the term of half pay pensions to the widows and children of Officers, seamen, and marines, who died in the public service, with the amendment proposed thereto by the Naval Committee of the Senate. The amendment was agreed to, the bill reported to the Senate, and passed, as amended to a third reading.

The bill, which originated in the Senate, to revive and continue in force an act, providing compensation for the Secretary of the Senate, and Clerk of the House of Representatives, and for other purposes, was taken up for consideration. On motion of Mr. EATON, the bill was amended, by the substitution of a new one for it; and, subsequently, it was referred, on motion of Mr. LANMAN, to the Committee on the Contingent expenses of the Senate. Adjourned.

Tuesday, January 13, 1824.—Twenty-ninth day.

The following petitions and memorials were presented and referred:—

Sundry persons claiming indemnification for captures by the French, previous to the year 1800;—By Mr. PARROTT. [Foreign Relations.]

Sundry persons concerned in the manufacture of iron, praying an increase of the duty on imported iron;—By Mr. FINDLAY.

Sundry merchants and underwriters in Charleston, S. C. praying indemnity for French spoiliations prior to the year 1800;—By Mr. HAYNE. [Foreign Relations.]

A communication from the Secretary of War, in relation to a resolution of the Senate calling upon him for information as to the expediency of opening a military road from Fort St. Philip to New Orleans, in the State of Louisiana, was received, read, and, on motion of Mr. JOHNSON, of La. referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. BARTON, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported unfavourably on the petition of Alexander A. White, of Louisiana.

Mr. VAN BUREN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, requested to be discharged from the further consideration of the resolution, submitted Tuesday last, (1) (folio 148.) By Mr. EDWARDS of Conn. The committee was accordingly discharged.

The bill from the House, further extending the term of half pay pensions to the widows and children of officers, seamen, and marines, who died in the public service, as amended in the Senate, was read the third time, and PASSED.

The bills which were read a first time yesterday, severally received their second reading to-day.

The bill from the other House for the relief of certain distillers in the county of Berks, in the State of Pennsylvania, was taken up, as in committee of the whole. [This bill provides remuneration for an excess of excise duties on their stills, paid to the United States, by the persons in whose favour it is drafted, in consequence of a misconstruction of the Law, on the part of the supervisor.] It was reported to the Senate, without amendment, and passed to a third reading.

The bill to abolish imprisonment for debt, reported by a select Committee of the Senate, was taken up, in course, and having received an amendment, was, on motion of Mr. JOHNSON, of Ky. postponed to Monday of the week after next.

The bill making partial appropriations for the support of government, during the year 1824, was, on motion of Mr. SMITH, taken up for consideration as in Committee of the Whole. [The bill makes appropriation for the payment of the Senators and Representatives in Congress, and for the officers, clerks, and servants of both Houses.] It was reported to the Senate, and passed to be engrossed and read a third time.

The bill reported in the Senate, by the Committee on Public Lands, for the relief of Joseph Wood, of Ohio, was taken up as in Committee of the Whole. [The bill provides payment for the services of Mr. Wood, as receiver of public moneys, for a short time, during a vacancy of that office.] It was reported to the Senate, without amendment, and passed to be engrossed and read a third time.

Mr. LLOYD, of Massachusetts, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, to whom was referred a resolution (introduced by Mr. PARROTT) to inquire into the expediency of increasing the number of sloops of war, made a report thereon, accompanied by the following bill:

Be it enacted, &c. That the President of the United States be, and he is hereby, authorized to cause to be built, in addition to the present naval force of the United States, a number of sloops of War, of the first class, not exceeding ten, to carry not less than twenty guns each, of such description and weight of metal, as the President may direct, and that the sum of eight hundred and fifty thousand dollars be, and the same is hereby, appropriated for the purpose aforesaid, out of any moneys in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated.

The bill had two several readings, and the documents accompanying it were ordered to be printed. *Adjourned.*

Wednesday, January 14th, 1824.—Thirtieth day.

Mr. VAN DYKE, a Senator from the State of Delaware, appeared, was qualified, and took his seat.

A communication was received from the Secretary of the Navy, transmitting, in obedience to law, a list of the clerks employed in that department, and their compensations.

The following petitions were presented and referred.

Sundry citizens of the town of Wells in Maine, praying for some measures for improving, and keeping to a proper depth, the harbour and channel to that town;—By Mr. HOLMES, of Maine.

Sundry citizens of the city and county of Philadelphia, praying such a modification of the Tariff as will afford further encouragement and protection to domestic manufactures;—By Mr. LOWRIE.

Abiel Wood and others, of Wiscasset in Maine, praying to be indemnified for French spoiliations committed on their property previous to the year 1800;—By Mr. CHANDLER.

Sundry citizens of New-Jersey, praying an increase of duty on foreign iron;—By Mr. DICKERSON.

Mr. BARTON, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill for the relief of Celestin Moreau, of Louisiana; which was read.

Mr. BARTON, from the same committee, asked and obtained leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of James Edington.

Mr. NOBLE, from the Committee on Pensions, asked and obtained leave to be discharged from the further consideration of the petition of Dean Weymouth for an increase of Pension; and on the motion of Mr. N., it was ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. PARROTT submitted the following resolution for consideration: *Resolved*, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of continuing the pensions heretofore granted by law to the widows of persons slain in the private armed vessels of the United States, or who may have died in consequence of any accident or casualty which occurred on board such vessel, during the late war. (1)

Mr. HAYNE, for the purpose of bringing the whole subject embraced by the bill of Mr. EATON, yesterday referred to a Standing Committee, laid on the table the following resolution: *Resolved*, That the Committee on the Contingent Expenses of the Senate be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for the election, at stated periods, of the Secretary of the Senate, the principal and engrossing clerks, the Sergeant-at-arms, and Door-keeper, of the Senate. (2)

The bill from the House of Representatives, making a partial appropriation for the support of the Government for the year 1824, was twice read, and taken under consideration as in committee of the whole, and having been amended, was reported to the Senate, and ordered to be read a third time; it was read a third time accordingly, passed, and returned to the House of Representatives.

The bill from the House of Representatives for the relief of Garret Fountain was twice read and referred; and after spending a short time in the consideration of Executive business, *Adjourned.*

Thursday, January 15th, 1824.—Thirty-first day.

Mr. CLAYTON, elected a Senator from the State of Delaware, (in the place of Mr. RODNEY,) appeared to-day, was qualified, and took his seat.

The following petitions were presented, and referred:

The General Assembly of Alabama, praying the right of pre-emption may be granted to a quarter section of land, in certain counties, for the location of seats of justice;—By Mr. KELLY.

John Rush and Samuel Conway, of Missouri, praying compensation in land for Revolutionary services;—By Mr. BARTON.

Sundry citizens of Pennsylvania, praying an increase of the duty on imported iron;—By Mr. FINDLAY.

The administrators of Andrew Mitchell, stating, that the said Andrew Mitchell, being a captain of a volunteer rifle company, was called into service during the late war, and thereby prevented from using a still, for which he had obtained a licence, and praying that the sum paid for said licence may be refunded;—By Mr. FINDLAY.

John Hogg and others, of Fayetteville, and of J. G. Blount and others, of Washington, N. C. praying of the government indemnity for French depredations, committed between the years 1793 and 1800;—By Mr. BRANCH.

Samuel Arson, of Georgia, a surgeon in the Revolutionary army, praying the commutation of half-pay, allowed to other revolutionary officers—compensation which he has heretofore refrained from asking from his country, until misfortune had reduced him to poverty;—By Mr. ELLIOTT.

The bill from the House of Representatives, to extend the time for the settlement of private land claims in the territory of Florida, was twice read, and referred.

The bills from the House of Representatives, making a partial appropriation for the Support of Government for the year 1824, and for the relief of certain distillers in Pennsylvania, were read the third time, PASSED, and returned to the House of Representatives.

The bill for the relief of Joseph Wood of Ohio, was read the third time, PASSED, and sent to the House of Representatives.

The bill for the relief of Celestin Moreau, was read a second time.

The report of the Committee of Claims, unfavourable to the petition of Alexander A. White, was taken up; and, on motion of Mr. JOHNSON, of La. it was postponed until to-morrow.

The resolutions submitted yesterday by Mr. PARROTT (1) and Mr. HAYNE, (2) respectively, were taken up and adopted.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of the report of the select committee, on the several amendments proposed to the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. BENTON now submitted an amendment proposing, as a substitute, the proposition offered by him on the 9th instant, to the Constitution; and then moved that the subject be postponed to Wednesday next; which motion was agreed to.

The resolution offered on Friday last, by Mr. SEYMOUR (1) (fol. 152.) was taken up, and referred to the Committee on the Contingent Expenses.

The bill for the relief of Sarah Chitwood, was taken up as in Committee of the Whole, and, after some explanatory remarks, by Mr. NOBLE, it was, on motion of Mr. EATON, ordered to lie on the table.

The bill for the relief of the representatives of Firman Le Sieur, was taken up, and after some explanation by Mr. BARTON, and some discussion of the merits of the claim, by Messrs. CHANDLER, SMITH, BENTON, LOWRIE, KING, of New-York. EATON, and HAYNE, the bill was laid over to Monday.

The bill granting to the state of Alabama the right of pre-emption to a quarter section of land in each of three or four counties of that state, was taken up as in Committee of the whole; was afterwards reported to the Senate, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The Senate took up, as in committee of the Whole, the bill authorizing the Postmaster General to discontinue, at his discretion, the transportation of the Mail on any post routes where the net proceeds of such route shall not exceed — per centum of the expenses thereon.

On motion of Mr. KING, of N. Y. it was laid on the table.

Mr. KING, of N. Y. submitted the following resolution: *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Treasury report to the Senate what progress has been made in preparing the maps directed to be made and laid before the Senate by their resolution of the 28th day of February last; and in case the maps are not completed, whether additional assistance be requisite to enable the Commissioners of the General Land Office to complete the same. (1)

The Senate then went into the consideration of Executive business; after which, *Adjourned.*

Friday, January 16th, 1824.—Thirty-second day.

The following petitions were presented and referred:

Calvin Smith, of Mississippi, praying the confirmation of his title to a tract of land;—By Mr. JOHNSON, of La.

Samuel Kennard and others, praying indemnity for French spoiliations, committed prior to 1800;—By Mr. LLOYD, of Md.

Common Council of the town of Alexandria, praying certain amendments to their charter;—By Mr. LLOYD, of Md.

Reuben Shapley, of New Hampshire, the owner of a vessel captured by a British ship of war in 1815, and praying indemnity therefor;—By Mr. PARROTT.

Sundry citizens of Hartford, in Connecticut, praying a revision of the tariff and a further duty on woolens, fine cottons, and iron, and a duty on sales at auction;—By Mr. EDWARDS, of Conn.

Wm. I. Young and others, of Philadelphia, praying additional protection to domestic manufactures;—By Mr. FINDLAY.

Sundry citizens of New-Jersey, praying a revision of the tariff, and further protection to various domestic manufactures;—By Mr. DICKERSON.

Mr. EATON submitted the following: *Resolved*, That the Committee on the District of Columbia inquire if any, and what amendments, alterations, and improvements, are necessary in the judicial code of said District. (1)

Mr. WILLIAMS submitted the following: *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to prepare for the Senate a list of all Purser and Navy Agents who are in arrears to the United States, the amount of such arrearages in each case, and the sum which is likely to be lost, ultimately, by the government. (2)

The Senate resumed the consideration of the report of the Committee on Public Lands unfavourable to the petition of Col. Alexander A. White, who petitioned Congress to grant him the right of pre-emption to a small tract of public land, which he had settled on the west bank of the Mississippi river.

Mr. JOHNSON, La. moved to reverse the report of the Committee; and, the question being taken thereon, it was decided in the negative, by yeas and nays, as follows:

YEAS, 11.—Messrs. Benton, Brown, Edwards, of Conn. Hayne, Jackson, Johnson, of Lou. Kelly, King, of Alab. Lanman, Smith, and Talbot.

NAYS, 32.—Messrs. Barbour, Barton, Bell, Branch, Chandler, Clayton, D'Wolf, Dickerson, Eaton, Elliott, Findlay, Gaillard, Holmes, of Maine, Holmes, of Miss. King, of N. Y. Knight, Lloyd, of Maryland, Lloyd, of Mass. Lowrie, McIlvane, Maccon, Mills, Noble, Palmer, Parrott, Ruggles, Seymour, Taylor, of Ind. Thomas, Van Buren, Van Dyke, and Williams.

The report of the committee was then agreed to.

The bill from the House of Representatives authorizing the commissioners of the sinking fund to purchase the seven per cent. stock of the United States in the year 1824, was twice read and referred. *Adjourned.*

Monday, January 19th, 1824.—Thirty-third day.

The following memorials were presented and referred:

Sundry merchants and underwriters of the city of Philadelphia, on the subject of French spoliations;—By Mr. LOWRIE. [Foreign Relations.]

Sundry citizens of Norfolk, Virginia, on the subject of French spoliations;—By Mr. BARBOUR. [Foreign Relations.]

Certain manufacturers, and others, of the city of Baltimore, praying Congress to lay a tax on sales at Auction;—By Mr. SMITH. [Commerce and Manufactures.]

Sundry manufacturers of iron, praying an increase of the duty on imported iron;—By Mr. DICKERSON. [Commerce and Manufactures.]

Mr. WARE, a Senator from the state of Georgia, appeared and took his seat.

Mr. HOLMES, of Maine, submitted the following: *Resolved*, That the Committee on Indian Affairs be instructed to inquire whether any alterations are necessary, in the act "making provision for the civilization of the Indian tribes adjoining the frontier settlements," so as to authorize a part of the fund, provided by the act to be applied to the instruction and civilization of the Indians in the State of Maine, or any other state where such Indians are not adjoining "frontier settlements." (1)

Mr. SMITH, from the Committee on Finance, reported unfavourably on the petition of the President and Directors of the Merchants' Bank of Newport, R. I.; which report was read.

Mr. RUGGLES, from the Committee on Claims, reported unfavourably on the petition of Hanson Kelly.

Mr. JOHNSON, of La. submitted the following: *Resolved*, That the Committee on Public Lands be directed to inquire into the expediency of repealing the act of Congress, entitled "An act to prevent settlements being made on lands ceded to the United States, until authorized by law," passed 3d March, 1807. (2)

A communication from the agent for the sale of Lucas' Atlas having been read, Mr. SMITH, submitted the following: *Resolved*, That the Secretary be, and he hereby is, authorized to purchase five copies of Lucas' Universal Atlas, for the use of the Senate. (3)

Mr. VAN BUREN, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported the bill to alter the time of holding the District Courts in the State of Alabama, with an amendment.

On motion of Mr. ELLIOTT, leave was given to the claimants of Maison Rouge to withdraw their memorial and documents.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Ky. gave notice that he should to-morrow ask leave to introduce a bill for the relief of James Johnson, a Paymaster during the late war.

The resolution submitted on Thursday last by Mr. KING of N. Y. (1) was again read and agreed to.

The resolution offered on Friday last, by Mr. EATON, (1) was again read and agreed to.

The resolution offered on Friday last, by Mr. WILLIAMS, (2) was again read and agreed to.

Mr. MILLS, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, reported unfavourably on the petition of Richard O'Brien.

Mr. SMITH, from the Committee on Finance, reported a bill which came from the other House, authorizing the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to purchase the seven per cent. stock of the United States in the year 1824, with an amendment. The bill was taken up for consideration as in committee of the whole, reported to the Senate, and passed to a third reading. Subsequently the bill had its third reading, was PASSED as amended, and returned to the House.

On motion of Mr. JACKSON, the Senate, as in Committee of the Whole, proceeded to consider the bill reported by the Military Committee of the Senate explanatory of an act entitled an act for the relief of the officers, volunteers, and other persons engaged in the late campaign against the Seminole Indians, passed the 4th May, 1822.*

The bill was reported to the Senate without amendment, and passed to be engrossed and read the third time. *Adjourned.*

Tuesday, January 20th, 1824.—Thirty-fourth day.

The following petitions were presented and referred:

Jesse Camp, of Ohio, a Revolutionary soldier; praying the benefit of the act to provide for those persons disabled by wounds received in the Revolutionary War;—By Mr. RUGGLES. [Pensions.]

John Prichard, of Ohio, asking the grant of a tract of bounty land, to which his deceased brothers were entitled for services rendered during the Revolutionary War;—By Mr. BROWN. [Military Affairs.]

Sundry persons in Rhode Island, claiming indemnity for French spoliations;—By Mr. D'WOLF. [Foreign Relations.]

On motion of Mr. RUGGLES, the Committee on Claims was discharged from the further consideration of the petition of John Pride.

On motion of Mr. BARTON, the Committee on Public Lands was discharged from the further consideration of the petition of John Wright and Samuel Conway.

Mr. RUGGLES, from the Committee on Claims, reported the bill which came from the House, for the relief of Garret Fountain, without amendment.

Mr. DICKERSON, from the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures, reported the bill for the relief of Samuel Wharton, without amendment.

Mr. JOHNSON, of Ky. from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported unfavourably on the petition of Banister Stone.

In pursuance of notice given yesterday, Mr. JOHNSON, of Kentucky, asked and obtained leave to introduce a bill for the relief of James Johnson, a paymaster during the late war; read, and passed to a second reading.

The bill which originated in the Senate, explanatory of an act, entitled "An act for the relief of the officers, volunteers, and other persons, engaged in the late campaign against Seminole Indians," passed 4th May, 1822, was read the third time and PASSED.

Mr. VAN BUREN gave notice that he should ask leave, on Thursday next (22d inst.) to introduce a joint resolution, proposing an amendment of the constitution of the United States, on the subject of the power of Congress to make roads and canals.

Mr. SMITH submitted the following: *Resolved*, That the President of the United States be requested to cause information to be given to the Senate, of the progress made in fixing sites for fortifications at St. Mary's and Patuxent rivers, in preparing plans for

* This bill provides for the payment for horses and equipages lost by the volunteer officers engaged in that campaign, and for the payment of the value of horses and equipages lost in battle, by the volunteer officers and soldiers in the said campaign.

the same, and in estimating the cost of each fortification, conformably to a resolution of the Senate, of the 20th February, 1823. (1)

The report of the Committee of Claims, unfavourable to the petition of Hanson Kelly, of North Carolina, was taken up for consideration.* A motion of Mr. MACON, to reverse the report of the committee, prevailed; and the report was re-committed, with instructions to prepare a bill for the relief of the petitioner.

Mr. HOLMES, of Maine, gave notice that he should, to-morrow, ask leave to introduce a bill providing for the better security of public moneys in the hands of the marshals, attorneys, &c.

The Senate then proceeded to the consideration of Executive business. *Adjourned.*

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Friday, January 9th, 1824.—Twenty-seventh day.

[CONTINUED FROM FOLIO 159.]

The House went into committee of the whole on the bill for the relief of Sarah Perry: [The bill was advocated by Messrs. FULLER, HAMILTON, HENRY, CADY, M'DUFFIE, A. STEVENSON, and KREMER; and it was opposed by Messrs. WICKLIFFE, COBB, and CLAY.] The question being taken in the committee, on the motion of Mr. WICKLIFFE, to amend the bill by striking out the enacting clause, it was decided in the affirmative, ayes 121. The committee then rose and reported the bill with the amendment.

Mr. HAMILTON moved to lay the report on the table; and the question being taken, it was decided in the negative. Mr. ARCHER then moved that the bill be recommitted to the Naval Committee that reported it; which was carried, ayes 95.

The Speaker laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury, covering estimates of appropriation for the year 1824; which was referred to the Committee of Way and Means. *Adjourned to Monday.*

Monday, January 12th, 1824.—Twenty-eighth day.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Navy—enclosing the annual statement of the Commissioners of the Navy Pension Fund.

Mr. RANKIN, from the Committee on the Public Lands, presented reports in relation to the reviving and continuing in force the provisions of an act for the relief of purchasers of public lands prior to 1st July, 1820; also, on certain land claims in the State of Louisiana; also, an unfavourable report on so much of the petition of the Legislature of Alabama as relates to an extension of a right of pre-emption to certain settlers on public lands in that state; which were severally read, and laid on the table.

Mr. WEBSTER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to provide for the sale of lands conveyed to the United States, in certain cases, and for other purposes; twice read and committed.

Mr. M'LANE, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill for the relief of George B. R. Gove; twice read and committed.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee of Claims, presented a report accompanied with a bill for the relief of Joseph Wheaton; twice read and committed. [It provides for payment of certain expenses of removing with the government from Philadelphia to Washington, in 1800.]

Mr. WHITTLESEY, from the Committee of Claims, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Henry Alward; laid on the table.

Mr. LITTLE, from the Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary Claims, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Mary Clarke; laid on the table.

Mr. FORSYTH, from the Committee on Foreign Relations, presented an unfavourable report on the petition of Henry Cotheal, and others; laid on the table.

Mr. EDWARDS, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made a report against the expediency of fixing by law the nett amount of annual income which shall disqualify any applicant from being placed on the pension list, under the acts of 18th March, 1818, and 1st May, 1820. Also, unfavourable reports on the petitions of Jane Baker, Eliz. Will, David Bunch, Abiel Brown, William Da-

* This petitioner claims an additional sum of money, which he states to be due him, under a contract with the Marshal of North Carolina, for supplying rations to prisoners, during the late war.

vis, Roger Merrill, and Bartholomew Maloy; which were, respectively, laid on the table.

A message was received from the President of the United States, in the words following:

To the House of Representatives of the United States:

In answer to a resolution of the House of Representatives, of December 24th, requesting the President of the United States to lay before the House such information as he may possess, and which may be disclosed without injury to the public good, relative to the determination of any sovereign, or combination of sovereigns, to assist Spain in the subjugation of her late colonies on the American continent; and whether any government of Europe is disposed or determined to oppose any aid or assistance which such sovereign, or combination of sovereigns, may afford to Spain for the subjugation of her late colonies above mentioned; I have to state, that I possess no information on that subject, not known to Congress, which can be disclosed without injury to the public good.

JAMES MONROE.

On motion of Mr. COOK, *Resolved*, That the Committee on the Public Lands be instructed to inquire into the expediency of better defining the boundaries of the Edwardsville and Sangamo land districts, in the state of Illinois. Also,

Resolved, That the same committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing to the administrators of Michael Jones, deceased, late Register of the Land Office at Kaskaskia, additional compensation for his services.

Mr. VANCE submitted the following, which was laid on the table: "*Resolved*, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to prepare and report a bill appropriating twenty thousand dollars to be expended in laying out and opening a road from Detroit, in the territory of Michigan, to the Ohio State line, where the road from Detroit to Fort Meigs crosses the same." (1)

On motion of Mr. FULLER, *Resolved*, That the Committee on Naval Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing, by law, for the instruction of Midshipmen, and other warrant officers of the Navy, in the intervals of public service, in nautical science, practical navigation, and marine tactics.

Resolved, That the same Committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of providing for the scientific and practical instruction of junior Surgeons, and Surgeon's mates, at one or more of the naval stations of the United States.

Mr. SCOTT submitted the following, which were laid on the table: *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to transmit to this House all the books and reports of the several boards of Commissioners and recorders of land titles made out and transmitted to the Treasury Department, under the several acts of Congress, and the instructions predicated thereon, relating to the adjustment of land claims in the (then District of Louisiana and Territory of Missouri) now State of Missouri and Territory of Arkansas; whether the said books and reports relate to the confirmation or rejection of said claims. (2)

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to communicate to this House a copy of the instructions given by the Treasury Department, under the 8th section of the act of Congress, of the 21st of April, 1806, entitled "An act supplementary to an act, entitled an act for ascertaining and adjusting the titles and claims to lands within the (then) Territory of Orleans and District of Louisiana," to the several boards of Commissioners appointed under the act of Congress of the 2d of March, 1805, for the ascertaining and adjusting the titles and Claims to lands within the (then) aforesaid territories, now states of Louisiana and Missouri, and territory of Arkansas. (3)

On motion of Mr. CALL, *Resolved*, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing a salary to the Collector of the Port of Pensacola. Also,

Resolved, That the Committee on Commerce be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a port of Entry at Fernandina, on the coast of Florida.

On motion of Mr. M'LEAN, of Ohio, *Resolved*, That the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of extending the Mail Route now established by law, from Neville, in the county of Clermont, to Centreville, in the county of Montgomery and state of Ohio, so that said route shall extend to the town of Dayton, in the county of Montgomery aforesaid.

On motion of Mr. OWEN, *Resolved*, That the same committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a mail route from Prairie Bluff, or Dale, on Alabama river, to Marengo court house. Also,

Resolved, That the same committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of extending the mail route from Cahawba to Greenville, and from Greenville to the Falls of Conecuh.

On motion of Mr. EATON, *Resolved*, That the same committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a post route from the village of Esperance, in the county of Schcharie, through Duaneburg, to the town of Florida, in the State of New-York.

On motion of Mr. ROGERS, *Resolved*, That the same committee be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a post route from Milford, Pike county, Pennsylvania, to Mount Pleasant, by Fitzsimmons', Lockawaxen and Bethany, Wayne county, in said state.

On motion of Mr. ROSS, *Resolved*, That the Committee on Claims be instructed to inquire into the expediency of allowing compensation to the legal representatives of George Agnew, for property destroyed by the American troops, in the Michigan territory, during the late war.

Mr. SANFORD presented the following, *Resolved*, That Peter Hagner, Esq. Third Auditor, be requested to lay before this House any information within his knowledge of the claim of John Holliday, for a wagon and five horses, said to be destroyed while in the service of the United States, by the hostile Creek Indians, and whether said John Holliday received any pay for the use of said wagon and horses while in the service of the United States, previous to the destruction of the same. (5)

Mr. ISAACS presented the following: *Resolved*, That the Committee on Military Affairs be instructed to inquire into the expediency of revising the laws allowing a pension to the widows and orphans of such officers and privates of the Army who may have fallen in action, died in service, or of wounds received in service, during the late war, so as to continue the said pensions for the term of five years longer, after the expiration of the first terms, respectively.

Bills from the Senate, for the relief of Josiah Hook, jr.; and for the relief of the legal representatives of Joseph Boyd, were twice read and referred to the Committee on Claims.

Mr. COOK submitted the following: "Every petition presented, and proposed to be referred to any of the standing committees of the House, shall be laid on the Clerk's table by the member having the same in charge, with his name endorsed thereon, with a designation of the committee to which it is proposed to refer it; and the Clerk shall, according to such designation, send it to the proper committee." (4)

Mr. MITCHELL, (of Md.) offered the following joint resolution:

"Whereas that distinguished champion of freedom and hero of our Revolution, the friend and associate of Washington, the Marquis de la Fayette, a volunteer general officer in our Revolutionary war, has expressed an anxious desire to visit this country, the independence of which his valour, blood, and treasure, were so instrumental in achieving: Therefore,

"Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to the Marquis de la Fayette the expression of those sentiments of profound respect, gratitude, and affectionate attachment, which are cherished towards him by the government and people of this country; and to assure him that the execution of his wish and intention to visit this country will be hailed by the people and government with patriotic pride and joy.

"And be it further resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to ascertain from the Marquis de la Fayette, the time when it may be most agreeable for him to perform his visit; and that he offer to the Marquis a conveyance to this country in one of our national ships."

On motion of Mr. DAY, *Resolved*, That the Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary Claims be instructed to inquire into the expediency of placing Nathaniel Moffat, a soldier in the service of the United States, in the late war with Great Britain, on the pension list.

Engrossed bills for the relief of Garret Fountain; and to extend the time limited for the settlement of Private Land Claims in the Territory of Florida, were read a third time, PASSED, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Mr. HEMPHILL moved to postpone the orders of the day, to take up the bill to procure the necessary surveys, plans, and estimates, upon the subject of Roads and Canals.* The motion was carried, ayes 77,

* A BILL to procure the necessary Surveys, Plans, and Estimates, upon the subject of Roads and Canals.

Be it enacted, &c. That the President of the United States is hereby authorized to cause the necessary surveys, plans, and estimates, to be made, of the routes of such Roads and Canals as he may deem of national importance, in a commercial or military point of view, or necessary for the transportation of the public mail, designating, in the case of each Canal, what parts may be made capable of ship navigation; the surveys, plans, and estimates, for each, when completed, to be laid before Congress.

And be it further enacted, That, to carry into effect the objects of this act, the President be, and he is hereby, authorized to employ two or more skillful civil engineers, and such officers of the corps of engineers, or who may be de-

noes 55, and the House went into committee of the whole, Mr. FOOT in the chair, on that subject.

The question being on filling the blank in the third section of the bill, Mr. HEMPHILL moved that it be filled with \$30,000.

On motion of Mr. BARBOUR, the committee rose, reported, and obtained leave to sit again. *Adjourned*.

Tuesday, January 13, 1824.—Twenty-ninth day.

Mr. WEBSTER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill to authorize the issuing of Letters Patent to Samuel Brown; twice read, and committed.

Mr. RANKIN, from the Committee on the Public Lands, made unfavourable reports on the memorials of the Legislature of Alabama, respecting quarter sections of land, and pre-emption rights, in Jackson and Fayette counties, Alabama, which were laid on the table; and the committee was discharged from the consideration of another memorial from the Legislature of Alabama, respecting an allowance of thirty-seven and a half per cent. to certain purchasers of land in that state.

Mr. M'LANE, from the committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill making a partial appropriation for the support of Government for the year 1824; which was twice read, and made the order of the day for this day.

The House, by consent, went into a committee of the whole, Mr. KENT in the chair, on the above bill. [which appropriates 265,140 dollars for the pay of the members,] which was adopted, and the bill was reported with the amendment for filling the blank, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading to-day.

Mr. CROWNSHIELD, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, made an unfavourable report on the petition of James Bell; laid on the table.

Mr. KENT, from the Committee on the District of Columbia, reported a bill for regulating the fees of the Registers of the Orphans' Court, in the several counties within the District of Columbia; twice read, and committed.

Mr. LITTLE, from the Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary Claims, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Hannah Hagan.

Mr. F. JOHNSON, from the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads, made an unfavourable report on the petition of John Heck; laid on the table.

Mr. HARVY, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of William Blagrove; twice read and committed.

Mr. SLOANE, from the Committee of Elections, made an unfavourable report on the claim of John Biddle to the seat in this House of Gabriel Richard, Delegate from the Territory of Michigan; laid on the table.

The SPEAKER laid before the House the annual report from the Navy Department, of the names and salaries of the clerks employed therein; laid on the table.

Mr. SCOTT's resolutions of yesterday, (2) (3) were taken up and adopted.

Mr. SANFORD's resolution of yesterday, (5) was laid on the table.

The joint resolutions yesterday moved by Mr. MITCHELL, of Md. proposing to send a National Ship for the Marquis Lafayette, were read a second time—and the question being on ordering them to a third reading—

Mr. CONDUCT, of N. J. moved to refer the resolutions to a Select Committee; which motion was agreed to, without opposition.

The engrossed bill making a partial appropriation for the support of Government for the year 1824, was read a third time, passed, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

On motion of Mr. HEMPHILL, the House again resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, on the unfinished business of yesterday. Mr. FOOT was called to the chair, and the consideration of the bill for obtaining the necessary surveys, plans, and estimates, on the subject of roads and canals, was resumed.

Mr. P. P. BARBOUR, of Va. against the bill, and Mr. HOLCOMB, of New Jersey, in favour of it, addressed the House; and then, on suggestion of Mr. CLAY, the committee rose; and the House adjourned.

Wednesday, January 14th, 1824.—Thirtieth day.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a report from the Secretary of War, on the memorial of the Legislature of the territory of Ar-

tailed to do duty with that corps, as he may think proper; and the sum of [thirty thousand dollars] be, and the same is hereby, appropriated to be paid out of any moneys in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated.

kansas, respecting the lands occupied by the Quapau Indians, in said territory; which was read and referred to the committee of Ways and Means.

Mr. RANKIN, from the Committee on the Public Lands, reported a bill to provide for the extinguishment of the debt due by purchasers of public lands, prior to the 1st day of July, 1820; twice read and committed.

Mr. M'LANE, from the Committee of Ways and Means, presented an unfavourable report on the petition of Nathaniel Pierce; laid on the table.

Mr. SCOTT, from the Committee on the Public Lands, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Carmel Church, in the state of Alabama; laid on the table.

Mr. EDWARDS, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made an unfavourable report on the petitions of Adam Clackner and Jesse Murphy; laid on the table.

Mr. MOORE, of Alabama, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, reported a bill granting a right of pre-emption to certain actual settlers in that part of the former province of West Florida included in the District of Jackson Court House; which was twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. OWEN, *Resolved*, That the Committee on Public Lands be instructed to inquire into the justice and expediency of granting additional compensation to the Register and Receiver of the Land Office for the District of Jackson Court House, in the state of Mississippi, for extra services performed by them as Commissioners for the adjustment of private land claims.

On motion of Mr. BARTLEY, *Resolved*, That the Committee on the Post Office and Post Roads be instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a post route from New Haven, in Huron county, to Tiffin, in Seneca county, in the state of Ohio.

The House went into committee of the Whole, Mr. FOOT, of Connecticut, in the chair, on the unfinished business of yesterday; which was the motion of Mr. BARBOUR to strike out the enacting clause of the bill reported by Mr. HEMPHILL, Chairman of the Committee on Roads and Canals, to obtain the requisite surveys and plans on that subject.

The question was then taken on striking out the enacting clause in the bill, and decided in the negative—Ayes 74, Noes 109.

Mr. HEMPHILL moved to fill the blank for appropriation, with the sum of \$30,000, which was carried, ayes 105.

The committee then rose, and reported the bill with the amendment, and on the question of its engrossment for a third reading, the yeas and nays were called, on motion of Mr. MERCER, and are as follows:

YEAS, 114—Messrs. Abbot, Adams, Alexander, of Tenn. Allen, of Tenn. Allison, Baylies, J. S. Barbour, Bartlett, Bartley, Beecher, Blair, Breck, Brown, Buchanan, Buckner, Campbell, of Ohio, Carter, Cassedy, Condict, Cook, Crowsinshield, Cushman, Cuthbert, Durfee, Dwight, Eddy, Ellis, Farrelly, Forsyth, Forward, Fuller, Garrison, Gazlay, Govan, Gurley, Harris, Hayward, Hemphill, Henry, Herkimer, Holcombe, Houston, Ingham, Isaacs, Johnson, of Va. J. T. Johnson, F. Johnson, Kent, Kreamer, Lawrence, Lee, Letcher, Little, Livingston, M'Arthur, M'Duffie, M'Kean, M'Kee, M'Kim, M'Lane, of Del. M'Lean, Ohio, Martindale, Marvin, Matlack, Mercer, Metcalfe, Miller, Mitchell, Penn. Mitchell, Md. Moore, Ken. Moore, of Alab. Neale, Newton, Owen, Patterson, Penn. Patterson, of Ohio, Plumer, Penn. Poinsett, Prince, Rankin, Reynolds, Rich, Rogers, Ross, Saunders, Sandford, Scott, Sloan, Wm. Smith, Spence, Standifer, J. Stephenson, Stewart, Storrs, Strong, Swan, Test, Thompson, of Ken. Todd, Trimble, Udree, Vance, of N. C. Vance, of Ohio, Vinton, Warfield, Wayne, Webster, Whittelsey, White, Wickliffe, James Wilson, Henry Wilson, Wilson, of Ohio, Wright.

NAYS, 82—Messrs. Alexander, of Va. Allen, Mass. Archer, Ball, Barber, of Conn. P. P. Barbour, Bassett, Bradley, Buck, Burleigh, Burton, Cambreleng, Campbell, S. C. Cary, Clark, Cobb, Cocke, Collins, Conner, Crafts, Craig, Culpeper, Day, Dwinell, Eaton, Edwards, of N. C. Floyd, Foot, of Conn. Foote, N. Y. Frost, Gatlin, Gist, Hall, Harvey, Hayden, Herrick, Hobart, Hogeboom, Hooks, Jenkins, Kidder, Lathrop, Leftwich, Lincoln, Litchfield, Livermore, Long, Longfellow, M'Coy, Mangum, Mallary, Matson, Morgan, Plumer, N. H. Randolph, Reed, Richards, Sharp, Sibley, Arthur Smith, Alexander Smyth, Spaight, Sterling, A. Stevenson, Stoddard, Taylor, Ten Eyck, Thompson, of Geo. Tomlinson, Tracer, Tucker, of Va. Tucker, of S. C. Tyson, Van Rensselaer, Van Wyck, Whipple, Whitman, Williams, of Va. Williams, of N. C. Wilson, of S. C. Wood, Woods.

So the bill was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading. *Adjourned.*

Thursday, January 15th, 1824.—Thirty-first day.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a Letter from the Comptroller of the Treasury, transmitting a List of Balances on account of the late Internal Revenue on the books of the Register, which have remained unsettled, and appear to have been due more than three years prior to the 30th September, 1823.

Mr. M'LANE, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill for the relief of certain persons who have paid duties on certain goods imported into Castine; twice read, and committed.

Mr. HAMILTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, report-

ed a bill for the relief of John Thomas & Company; twice read, and committed.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee of Claims, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Samuel Smith; laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. M'KIM, *Resolved*, That the Committee of Ways and Means be directed to inquire into the expediency of reviving the first, second, third, and fourth sections of an act further to provide for the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, passed the 3d day of March, 1815.

Mr. BUCHANAN presented the following resolution: *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed, whose duty it shall be to inquire in what manner the resolutions of Congress, passed on the 24th December, 1799, relative to the erection of a Marble Monument in the Capitol, at the City of Washington, to commemorate the great events of the military and political life of General George Washington, may be best accomplished, and that they have leave to report by bill or otherwise.* (1)

The resolution was, on motion of Mr. GAZLAY, of Ohio, ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. STEWART submitted the following resolution, which was laid on the table: *Resolved*, That the Committee on Roads and Canals be instructed to report a bill appropriating the annual proceeds of the sales of the public lands, and the dividends of the United States' Bank stock, commencing from 1st January, 1823, to the purposes of internal improvement, to be distributed among the State according to their representation, and expended on objects to be designated by Congress within, or bordering on the respective States, unless where any state may consent that its proportion of the fund shall be applied to an object not immediately connected with its territorial limits. (2)

The House then, on motion of Mr. FORSYTH, took up the report of the Committee of Foreign Relations on the petition of Henry and David Cotheal, and David S. Hallet, which was read, and agreed to.

Mr. TUCKER, of Va. presented the following resolution: *Resolved*, That the Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary Claims be instructed to inquire into the expediency of giving the same pensions to the widows of the officers and soldiers who died in the service during the late war, and who enlisted to serve during the war, as is allowed to the widows of those who enlisted for a shorter term.†

Mr. WRIGHT moved to amend the resolution, by substituting, for the Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary Claims, a Select Committee; which was not carried.

Mr. M'Coy suggested to the mover, that the resolution be so

* Mr. BUCHANAN. On the 24th December, 1799, the Congress of the United States resolved "That a marble monument be erected by the United States, in the Capitol, at the city of Washington, and that the family of General Washington be requested to permit his body to be deposited under it; and that the monument be so designed as to commemorate the great events of his military and political life." They also resolved, "That the President of the United States be requested to direct a copy of these resolutions to be transmitted to Mrs. Washington, assuring her of the profound respect Congress will ever bear to her person and character; of their condolence on the late afflicting dispensation of Providence; and entreating her assent to the interment of the remains of General George Washington in the manner expressed in the first resolution." The then President of the United States transmitted these resolutions to Mrs. Washington, who, on the 31st December, 1799, returned the following answer.

MOUNT VERNON, Dec. 31, 1799.

SIR: While I feel with keenest anguish, the late dispensation of Divine Providence, I cannot be insensible to the mournful tributes of respect and veneration which are paid to the memory of my dear deceased husband; and as his best services and most anxious wishes, were always devoted to the welfare and happiness of his country; to know that they were truly appreciated, and gratefully remembered, affords no inconsiderable consolation.

Taught by that great example which I have so long had before me, never to oppose my private wishes to the public will, I must consent to the request made by Congress, which you have had the goodness to transmit to me; and in doing this I need not, I cannot say what a sacrifice of individual feeling I make to a sense of public duty.

With grateful acknowledgments, and unfained thanks, for the personal respect, and evidence of condolence, expressed by Congress, and yourself. I remain very respectfully, Sir, your most obedient humble servant,

MARTHA WASHINGTON.

During the same session of Congress, a bill passed the House of Representatives for erecting a mausoleum for George Washington in the city of Washington. It was postponed in the Senate until the next session. Several attempts have since been made in Congress, but they have all proved unavailing.

† Mr. TUCKER, in support of his resolution, observed, that he had been much surprised at the fact, disclosed to him in answer to a recent application, that, for the widows of those who had enlisted for the whole war, no provision had been made, while others, who served but for 12 or 18 months, had a pension granted them.

modified as to revive the former law on the same subject. To this Mr. TUCKER dissented; and the question being taken, the resolution was not agreed to.

On motion of Mr. M'LANE, the House resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. A. STEVENSON in the chair,) on the bill "authorizing the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to purchase the 7 per cent. stock of the United States, in the year 1824."

[This bill provides, that the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund be, and they are hereby, authorized to purchase, during the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty-four, any stock of the United States, bearing an interest of seven per centum per annum, not exceeding the sum of eight millions six hundred and ten thousand dollars, upon such terms as they may think proper, not exceeding the following rates above the principle sum purchased; that is to say:

For all such stock as they may purchase before the 1st day of April next, at a rate not exceeding one dollar and seventy-five cents for every sum of one hundred dollars, in addition to the interest which would have accrued on that day upon the said stock.

For all such stock which they may purchase between the 1st day of April and the 1st day of July next, at a rate not exceeding 75 cents on every sum of 100 dollars, in addition to the interest which would have accrued on the day last mentioned.

For all such stock which they may purchase between the 1st day of July and the 1st day of October next, at a rate not exceeding, on every sum of 100 dollars, the amount of interest which would have accrued on the day last mentioned: and

For all such stock which they may purchase between the 1st day of October next and the 1st day of January, 1825, at a rate not exceeding the principal and the interest which shall have accrued at the day of purchase.

The 2d section of the bill provides, that the said Commissioners are hereby authorized to make such purchases under the foregoing restrictions, at such times and places as they may deem most eligible; and, for the purpose of carrying into effect the provisions of this act, any money in the Treasury, not otherwise appropriated, is hereby appropriated.]

The 1st section being under consideration, Mr. M'LANE moved to amend the bill by striking out \$1 75, and substituting \$2 [so as to allow the Commissioners to pay for such U. S. stock as they may purchase prior to the 1st of April next, at a rate not exceeding \$2 on \$100 in addition to the interest.]

The amendment was adopted; and the bill as amended was reported to the House, and ordered to a third reading.

Mr. HEMPHILL then moved to take up the bill providing for the procurement of surveys, &c. for roads and canals, which had been laid on the table this morning, to make way for the preceding bill. The motion was carried, Ayes 97—Noes 76, and the bill had its third reading.

On motion of Mr. RANDOLPH, the bill was then recommitted to a committee of the whole.

Mr. M'DUFFIE gave notice, that he would to-morrow call up the consideration of the reported amendment of the constitution, respecting the choice of President and Vice President of the United States.

The amendments of the Senate to the Partial Appropriation Bill, were considered, and concurred in.

The bill from the Senate, for the relief of Joseph Wood, of Ohio, was referred to the Committee on the Public Lands. Adjourned.

Friday, January 16th, 1824.—Thirty-second day.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a statement exhibiting the value of the trade which the United States held with Greece, Asia Minor, and Egypt, during the years ending on the 30th of September, 1820, 1821 and 1822: read and laid on the table.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee of Claims, made unfavourable reports in the cases of Nathaniel Childers, Frederick Purley, and Johnathan Warmley; which were severally laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. WEBSTER, the Committee of the Judiciary was discharged from the consideration of the memorial of certain merchants and underwriters of Alexandria; also of the memorial of the ninth Convention of the Missionary Society of Tennessee; also of the petitions of sundry individuals.

Mr. PLUMER, from the Committee on the Judiciary reported a bill for the relief of William N. Earle; twice read and committed.

Mr. VINTON, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill from the Senate for the relief of Joseph Wood of Ohio, without amendment, and it was committed to a Committee of the Whole.

Mr. M'LANE, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill for relieving the owners of the ship General Jackson from the payment of certain duties; twice read and committed.

Mr. M'LANE, from the same Committee, reported a bill authorizing the issuing of Debentures to Bernard Thooft; twice read and committed.

Mr. M'LANE, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported

a bill making an appropriation towards the extinguishment of the Quapaw title to lands in the territory of Arkansas; twice read and committed.

Mr. M'LANE, from the same Committee, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Robert B. Taylor; laid on the table.

Mr. HAMILTON, from the Committee on Military Affairs, reported a bill for the relief of the corporation of the Church of St. Anne, Detroit, and to extend Larned Street, in the town of Detroit; twice read and committed.

Mr. WITTLESEY, from the Committee of Claims made an unfavourable report on the petition of Benjamin Smith; laid on the table.

Mr. SCOTT, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill enabling the claimants of land within the state of Missouri to institute proceedings to try the validity of their claims; twice read and committed.

Mr. EDWARDS, from the Committee on Revolutionary Pensions, made unfavourable reports on the petitions of Henry Hallowell and Samuel Howell; laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. COOK, Resolved, That the Committee on the Public Lands be instructed to inquire whether any, and, if any, what provision is proper to be made to enable the holders of claims to land in Illinois, confirmed to them by the Governors of the N. W. Territory, and which were afterwards rejected by the Board of Commissioners appointed to revise such confirmations, to try and determine the validity of their claims, and, in the event of their appearing valid, to receive compensation therefor.

On motion of Mr. HOBART, Resolved, That the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of repealing so much of the act, entitled "An act laying a duty on imported salt, granting a bounty on pickled fish exported, and allowance to certain vessels employed in the fisheries," passed 29th July, 1813, as authorizes a bounty on pickled fish exported, and of granting, in lieu thereof, an allowance on the tonnage of vessels employed in the mackerel fisheries, in the same way as to vessels employed in the bank and other cod fisheries.

Mr. TOMLINSON offered the following: Resolved, That the Commissioners of Navy Hospitals be directed to report to this House the amount of the sums which they have received and expended by virtue of the act, entitled "An act establishing Navy Hospitals;" the balance remaining in their hands on the 31st of December, 1823; designating the sum which has been absorbed in the pay of the navy, and which is due to the hospital, fund; and what measures they have adopted to carry into effect the provisions of said act. (1)

Mr. KENT called up the consideration of the resolution (2) offered by him, on the 16th of December, (fol. 92.) and the House refused to consider the same.

Mr. HEMPHILL gave notice, that on Wednesday next, he should again call up the bill for obtaining the requisite surveys, plans, and estimates, on the subject of Roads and Canals, which was yesterday re-committed to a committee of the whole.

On motion of Mr. STEWART, Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary, be instructed to inquire into the expense of authorizing the proper accounting officers to settle the accounts of James Whaley, late a Captain in the service of the United States, according to the principles of justice and equity.

The engrossed bill, authorizing the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund to purchase the seven per cent. stock of the United States, in the year 1824; was read a third time, PASSED, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

The House went into a Committee of the Whole, Mr. CONDUCT in the chair, on the bill concerning Invalid Pensioners.

Mr. LITTLE moved an amendment, adding the names of certain individuals to the list of those contained in the bill; which was at length adopted.

Mr. COCKE moved that the bill be further amended, by striking out the name of James Royal, [who was wounded by an explosion at a feu de joie, in celebration of a victory.]

On the question being taken, this motion was agreed to, and the name stricken out.

The bill was then reported as amended, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. M'DUFFIE, The House went into committee of the whole on the state of the Union, on the resolution by him reported from a select committee, (fol. 100,) for amending the Constitution of the United States, respecting the choice of Electors of President and Vice President.

Mr. FORSYTH, of Ga. moved that the committee rise: and the question being taken, it was decided in the negative.

Mr. M'DUFFIE then delivered his views on the measures embraced in the resolution. The committee rose, and then the House Adjourned.

Monday, January 19th, 1824.—Thirty-third day.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communication from the Treasury Department, containing the annual statement of the amount received by the several clerks in that department, during the year 1823.

Also, from the same department, the report of the Director of the Mint, giving the result of sundry assays made in pursuance of instructions from that department.

Mr. FLOYD, from the Committee to whom the subject was referred, reported a bill to authorize the occupation of the Columbia or Oregon river; which was twice read, and committed.

The engrossed bill concerning invalid pensioners, was read a third time, PASSED, and sent to the Senate for concurrence.

Mr. TOD, from the Committee on Manufactures, gave notice, that this day two weeks, (Feb. 2) he should call up the tariff bill, and he presented a statement of the comparative duties as now existing by law, and as proposed by that bill; which was ordered to be printed.

The House then went into committee of the whole, Mr. TAYLOR in the chair, on the following resolution some time since offered by Mr. WEBSTER: *Resolved*, That provision ought to be made by law for defraying the expense incident to the appointment of an agent, or commissioner, to Greece, whenever the President shall deem it expedient to make such appointment.

Mr. WEBSTER addressed the House. The Committee then rose, reported progress, and having had leave to sit again, the House Adjourned.

Tuesday, January 20th, 1824.—Thirty-fourth day.

Mr. COCKE, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, reported a bill providing for the appointment of two Indian agents, in addition to those already provided for by law, and fixing their compensation; twice read, and committed.

Mr. M'LANE, from the Committee of Ways and Means, reported a bill to revive and continue in force the first, second, third, fourth, and fifth sections of the act, entitled "An act further to provide for the collection of duties on imports and tonnage, passed the 3d March, 1815;" twice read, and committed.

Mr. ALLEN, from the Committee of Claims, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Abner Porter.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the Committee of Claims, reported a bill for the relief of Arthur H. Henley; twice read, and committed.

Mr. WILLIAMS, from the same committee, made an unfavourable report on the claim of John B. Smith; laid on the table.

Mr. WEBSTER, from the Committee on the Judiciary, reported a bill for the relief of the legal representatives of John Michael, deceased; twice read, and committed.

Mr. CAMPBELL, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made unfavourable reports on the petitions of John Jenkins and Alexander Watts; laid on the table.

Mr. RANKIN, from the Committee on Public Lands, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Alexander Macomb; laid on the table.

Mr. TOMLINSON called up the resolution, which he formerly presented, respecting the commissioners of Navy Hospitals, and it was agreed to by the House.

Mr. CROWNINSHIELD, from the Committee of Naval Affairs, reported a bill authorizing the building of ten sloops of war; which was twice read, and committed.

Mr. CROWNINSHIELD, from the same committee, returned the bill extending the term of half-pay pensions, &c. together with a report recommending that the House do concur in the Senate's amendment of the bill. The question being taken, the House concurred.

Mr. RANKIN, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported a bill for the relief of the representatives of John Donnelson, Stephen Earle, and others; twice read and referred.

Mr. HAMILTON, from the Military Committee, made an unfavourable report on the petition of Archibald Jackson: laid on the table.

Mr. VINTON, from the Committee on the Public Lands, made an unfavourable report on the petition of John P. Thompson; laid on the table.

Mr. WHIPPLE, from the Committee on the Public Lands, reported a bill providing for a grant of land for the site of public buildings in Florida; twice read and committed.

On motion of Mr. RICH, the petition of John Armstrong, heretofore reported on, was recommitted to the Committee of Claims.

Mr. MITCHELL, from the committee to whom the subject was referred, reported an amendment to the resolution respecting the Marquis La Fayette, striking out the preamble and all that follows the word "Resolved," and substituting the following:

"That the Marquis de la Fayette having expressed his intention to visit this country, the President be requested to communicate to him the assurances of grateful and affectionate attachment still cherished towards him by the government and people of the United States.

"And be it further resolved, That, as a mark of national respect, the President cause to be held in readiness a ship of the line, and invite the Marquis to take passage therein, whenever his disposition to visit this country be signified."

The question being put on the adoption of the amendment, it passed unanimously in the affirmative; and the resolution, as amended, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

On motion of Mr. WEBSTER, the House then resolved itself into a committee of the whole on the state of the Union, Mr. TAYLOR in the chair.

Mr. CLAY offered the following: *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States in Congress assembled*, That the people of these states would not see, without serious inquietude, any forcible interposition, by the Allied Powers of Europe, in behalf of Spain, to reduce to their former subjection those parts of the continent of America which have proclaimed and established for themselves, respectively, Independent Governments, and which have been solemnly recognized by the United States. (1)

The committee of the whole having the consideration of the resolution recommending an appropriation to defray the expenses of a mission to Greece, and after some time spent in debate, the Committee rose, reported progress, and had leave to sit again; and, on motion of Mr. TAYLOR, the resolutions were ordered to be printed.

A bill from the Senate, granting to the State of Alabama the right of pre-emption to certain quarter-sections of land, was twice read, and committed.

The bill from the Senate, explanatory of an act, entitled "An act for the relief of the officers, volunteers, and other persons, engaged in the late campaign against the Seminole Indians," passed the 4th, of May, 1822, was twice read and referred.

The House concurred in the amendments of the Senate to the bill for the purchase of seven per cent. stock of the United States. Adjourned.

Wednesday, January 21, 1824.—Thirty-fifth day.

Mr. COCKE, of Tennessee, presented a resolution adopted by the General Assembly of the state of Tennessee, requesting Congress to pass a law for paying officers and others for property lost by them in the Seminole Campaign, and that the ambiguity or doubtful meaning of the act of 4th May, 1822, be explained or modified, &c.; referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. WILLIAMS, of N. C. from the Committee of Claims, to whom was referred the bill from the Senate for the relief of Josiah Hook, Jr. made a report adverse to the same; bill and report ordered to lie on the table.

Mr. CAMPBELL, of Ohio, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made a report on the petition of Robert S. Foreman, accompanied by a bill for his relief; twice read and committed.

Mr. LITTLE, from the Committee on Pensions and Revolutionary Claims, made a report unfavourable to the petition of Joseph Reid and Hannah M. Farr; ordered to lie on the table.

On motion of Mr. POINSETT, (by instruction from the Library Committee) it was *Resolved*, That the Committee of Ways and Means be instructed to inquire into the expediency of appropriating five thousand dollars for the use of the Library of Congress.

Mr. MOORE, of Alabama, from the Committee on Private Land Claims, made a report on the petition of Thomas T. Townley, in the behalf of Don Miguel Esclava, accompanied by a bill confirming to the heirs sundry claims to land in the city and county of Mobile, in the State of Alabama; twice read and committed.

(To be continued.)